Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 102594 ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 DODE-00 /050 R

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R 052013Z MAY 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY ROME

SECRETSTATE 102594

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, ET, SO, SU, SA

SUBJECT: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH GOI ON HORN OF AFRICA

REF: A. ROME 7115; B. ROME 6729; C. STATE 92304

- 1. YOU MAY BRIEF THE GOI ON THE HORN OF AFRICA DRAWING FROM MATERIAL CONTAINED IN REFTEL C, OMITTING PARA 5, HOWEVER, WHICH SHOULD BE REPLACED BY FOLLOWING:
- 2. THE EPMG'S ORDER TO CLOSE AND EXPEL WITHIN ONE WEEK
 THE PERSONNEL OF MAAG, USIS, THE KAGNEW STATION COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY, OUR CONSULATE GENERAL IN ASMARA AND THE
 NAVAL MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER DRAMATIZED THE TWO-YEAR
 DETERIORATION IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH THE
 EPMG HAS NOT OFFERED US ANY FORMAL EXPLANATION FOR THEIR
 ACTION, THE IMMEDIATE PRECIPITATING CAUSE PROBABLY WAS OUR
 DELIVERY OF NOTES ON APRIL 20 AND 21. WE NOTIFIED THE
 EPMG THAT WE WERE HALVING MAAG IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
 CONGRESSIONALLY-MANDATED WORLDWIDE MAAG REDUCTION, AND THAT,
 TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS HAVING OBVIATED THE NEED FOR
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KAGNEW STATION, WE WISHED TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS AS PROVIDED FOR IN OUR BILATERAL AGREEMENT TO CLOSE DOWN KAGNEW BEFORE SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR. THE SECRETARY'S FEBRUARY 24 ANNOUNCEMENT THAT WE HAD DECIDED TO TERMINATE

MAP MATERIEL SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA IN FY 78, IN PART BE-CAUSE OF ETHIOPIAN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, ALSO WAS A FACTOR. WE HAVE NOT PROVIDED ETHIOPIA WITH LETHAL MILITARY MATERIEL FOR OVER TEN MONTHS AND DELIVERY OF ALL LETHAL AND NON-LETHAL MILITARY MATERIEL IS BEING HELD UP PENDING A CAREFUL REVIEW OF OUR RELATIONSHIP. THE EPMG ACTION IN CLOSING THE MAAG AND REPUDIATING OUR MUTUAL DEFENSE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT SUGGESTS THAT THEY WISH AN END TO OUR MILITARY RELATIONSHIP. CHRISTOPHER

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TAGS: PFOR, US, ET, SO, SU, SA, IT

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